Minutes of the Community Development Committee Public Hearing February 10, 2011 First Floor Meeting Room, Town Hall

Attendance:

Present: Members: Claude Tellier (CT), Mary Jane Laus (MJL), Jana McClure (JM), Nancy Gregg (NG), Staff Nate Malloy (NM), SB Liaison, Alisa Brewer (AB).

Guests: Kevin Eddings

Call to Order

11·15 a m

Announcements

None

Minutes

None

New Business

Claude (CT) expressed his concern about who was notified of the meeting because there was only one member of the public in attendance. Although the hearing was advertised on the Town's website, he requested that the committee view the email distribution list to see if organizations or individuals could be added.

Nate (NM) explained that the public hearing was being held to reallocate CDBG funds from 2009. There is a total of \$77,000 for the reallocation.

There are two projects under consideration, and they are as follows:

- 1. The first project is a request for funding to complete assessments and feasibility studies of the West Street property, which the Town intends to purchase for affordable housing. The amount of funds would be \$12,000 for wetlands determination, a 21E report (environmental assessment) and a survey of the property. Town staff estimated that it would take 1-2 months to complete the work. The Committee was informed that if these studies determined the property to be unsuitable for affordable housing, the \$200,000 FY2011 CDBG request approved last fall would need to be reallocated.
- 2. The second project is for \$65,000 for the development of plans and removal of barriers at Community Field to make the existing walkway, ramp and parking accessible. The Town's Leisure Services and Supplemental Education (LSSE) Department is renovating and modernizing the comfort station at Community Field, however, there are no site improvements associated with this project. The funding request includes approximately \$35,000 for the improvement of the existing ramp to bring it in compliance with ADA standards, and approximately \$30,000 for improvements to the walkways and two HP parking spaces, which are also non-compliant.

A discussion was held about the suitability of the project, during which Kevin Eddings mentioned that there could be some other uses for the money related to accessibility of bus stops and other transportation related issues. He encouraged the committee to postpone a decision.

The hearing was closed at 12:15 p.m.

The committee then discussed and voted unanimously (4-0) to support the grant amendment for \$77,000 and recommend that \$12,000 be allocated toward the West Street wetlands determination, environmental assessment and survey, and \$65,000 toward the removal of barriers along the parking, walkway and ramp at Community Field.

Material Distributed at Meeting (Available upon request in the Planning Department)

Public hearing notice
Site locus map of West Street property
Map of Community Field
Preliminary plans for accessible ramp at Community Field

Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 12:57 p.m.